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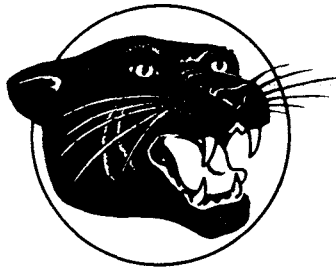
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Panther Sports News

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April 11, 1984

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eight collegiate track teams will be entered Saturday (April 14) in the annual Eastern Illinois University relays at O'Brien Stadium.

This non-scoring meet will begin with field events at 10:45 a.m. with running events starting at 11:00.

Besides EIU, other teams entered are Purdue, Indiana State, ISU-Evansville, Illinois State, Maryville College, SIU-Edwardsville and Missouri Baptist.

"We've got several of our starters ailing so we'll rest them this week and get some younger people in the lineup. We have a talented group of freshmen so it's a good opportunity to go for some freshman records and see what they can do," said Coach Neil Moore.

Still the No. 1 relay remains the distance medley and the regular foursome will be intact Saturday, according to Moore. Those four are Don Johnson in the 800, Chris Johnson in the 400, Drew Geisler in the 1200 and Paul West in the 1600.

"This is the same bunch that placed third at Southeast Missouri last week and ran at the Florida Relays . . . they're our best shot," Moore says.

"We'll do well in the field events, also. We'll have our usual group competing there. They're like Clydesdale horses . . . dependable and always pulling their load."

That means Dan Matas will seek improvement on last week's record shot put throw of 55-7, Larry Thoennissen will be in the discus and/or hammer, Rick Francis in the hammer and Austin Luckett going for the 200 foot distance in the javelin.

Expected to be sidelined this week are sprinter Claude Magee, pole vaulter Roxy Wood and jumpers Anthony Clay and Mike Kelly.